October 19, 2020

We are contacting the FCC in regards to the Notice of Proposed Rulemaking Document 20-270, also known as the Ray Baum Act.

We of the Dayton Amateur Radio Association represent one of the largest Amateur Radio Clubs in America, around 800 members. We hold the club call of W8BI and we are writing to let you know we are strongly against the proposal to assess a $50 fee for each change/upgrade/renewal connected to an Amateur Radio License and request an exemption to this fee.

In just the State of Ohio it has been documented that the time donated to public service is worth about $3 million. Amateur Radio is an important communication link in the western forest fires, tornados and severe storms in the Midwest as well as hurricane assistance.

Amateur Radio is one of the most important tools for today's youth to learn cutting edge wireless technology. Amateur Radio augments their science education in this country. It is an incredible source of significant technical innovation for people of all ages.

Amateur Radio is generally self-regulating, administering license exams and uploading them into the FCC data base with minimal work from the FCC. We never charge a fee for any of the work we do for Amateur Radio.

If it is determined there must be some charge because the statute is mandatory at some level, we recommend at the very least young people (younger than 26) and seniors 65 and older be exempt from this fee.

We in the Amateur Radio community appreciate the work and effort the FCC does to assist and protect the radio spectrum in this country.

Best Regards,

On Behalf of the Membership of The Dayton Amateur Radio Association

and the Dayton Amateur Radio Association Board of Trustees